(ii) a polypeptide encoded by nucleic acid which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the complement of nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO:2 said polypeptide substantially retaining the ability to bind to a protein tyrosine phosphastase which (a) possesses a non-catalytic domain comprising a region rich in proline, serine and threonine residues and a C-terminal 20 amino acid segment which is rich in proline residues, and (b) defines at least one SH3 binding domain wherein said stringent conditions are hybridization in a solution containing 50% formamide, 5 x SSC (0.75 M NaCl, 0.075 M sodium citrate), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 6-8), 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 5x Denhardt's solution, sonicated salmon sperm DNA (50 µg/ml), 0.1% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) and 10% dextran sulfate at 42°C in 0.2 x SSC and 0.1% SDS.

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Please amend Claim 22 as follows:

Claim 22 (amended) An assay for identifying an antagonist or agonist of [the PSTPIP] a PST phosphatase interacting protein (PSTPIP) polypeptide [of Claim 1] selected from the group consisting of

(i) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of the PSTPIP polypeptide shown in Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1); and

(ii) a polypeptide encoded by nucleic acid which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the complement of nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO:2 said polypeptide substantially retaining the ability to bind to a protein tyrosine phosphastase which (a) possesses a non-catalytic domain comprising a region rich in proline, serine and threonine resides and a C-terminal 20 amino acid segment which is rich in proline residues, and (b) defines at least one SH3 binding domain wherein said stringent conditions are hybridization in a solution containing 50% formamide, 5 x SSC (0.75 M NaCl, 0.075 M sodium citrate), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 6-8), 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 5x Denhardt's solution, sonicated salmon sperm DNA (50 µg/ml), 0.1% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) and 10% dextran sulfate at 42°C in 0.2 x SSC and 0.1% SDS, which comprises contacting the PSTPIP polypeptide [of Claim 1] with a candidate antagonist or agonist and monitoring the ability of said polypeptide to induce the polymerization of actin monomers.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

The foregoing amendments in the claims are fully supported by the specification and claims as originally filed and do not introduce new matter into the specification. Specific support is found in the passage bridging pages 13 and 14.

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In the Office Action mailed March 8, 2000, applicants were requested to elect for examination purposes one of four groups listed on page 2 of the Office Action. The claims of Group 3 (claims 15 through 18, and 22) drawn to an antibody, are hereby elected, with traverse.

It is believed that upon entry of the foregoing amendment in the claims the present application will be in prima facie condition for allowance and an early action to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: April 7, 2000

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AMEND
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